

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/649,195

Examiner

Gary L. Laxton

Applicant(s)

WHITNEY, STEPHEN J.

Art Unit

2838

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 7/25/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-26, 28-30, 32 and 34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 March 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Gary L. Laxton
Primary Examiner
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8/2/05

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-26, 28-30, 32 and 34 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-12; prior fails to disclose or suggest, inter alia, a circuit protection device comprising an overcurrent protection portion; an overvoltage protection portion having an at least partially conductive surface; and a plurality of terminals for connecting both the overvoltage and overcurrent protection portions of the integral circuit protection device to the circuit to be protected, wherein the at least partially conductive surface of the overvoltage protection portion serves as one of the plurality of terminals; wherein the circuit protection device is formed as a discrete component for mounting on a printed circuit board, and wherein the plurality of terminals contact a surface of the printed circuit board upon placement thereon.

Claims 13-26, 28 and 29; prior fails to disclose or suggest, inter alia, a circuit element for overvoltage and overcurrent protection of a circuit, comprising: a circuit element mounting member having first, second and third terminals, wherein the circuit element is formed as a discrete component for mounting on a printed circuit board and wherein the first, second and third terminals contact a surface of the printed circuit board upon placement thereon; an overcurrent protection device electrically connected between the first and second terminals, the overcurrent protection device being contained by the circuit element mounting member; and an overvoltage protection device electrically connected to the second terminal and being contained

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by the circuit element mounting member, wherein a part of the overvoltage protection portion is conductive and serves as the third terminal.

Claims 30, 32 and 34; prior fails to disclose or suggest, inter alia, a method for providing an overcurrent and overvoltage device, the method comprising the steps of: providing a mounting member configured to receive an overcurrent protection element and an overvoltage protection element, the mounting member having a plurality of terminals; disposing the overcurrent and overvoltage protection elements within the mounting member such that the overcurrent protection element is electrically connected between first and second terminals of the plurality of terminals, the overvoltage protection element is electrically connected to the second terminal, and a part of the overvoltage protection element is conductive and serves as a third terminal of the plurality of terminals; and connecting the mounting member as a single discrete element to a circuit board that includes a telecommunications circuit, electrically connecting one of the first and second terminals to a first incoming line to the telecommunications circuit and electrically connecting the other of the first and second terminals to the telecommunications circuit such that the overcurrent protection element is connected in series with the telecommunications circuit; and electrically connecting the third terminal to a second incoming line to the telecommunications circuit such that the overvoltage protection element is connected in parallel with the telecommunications circuit.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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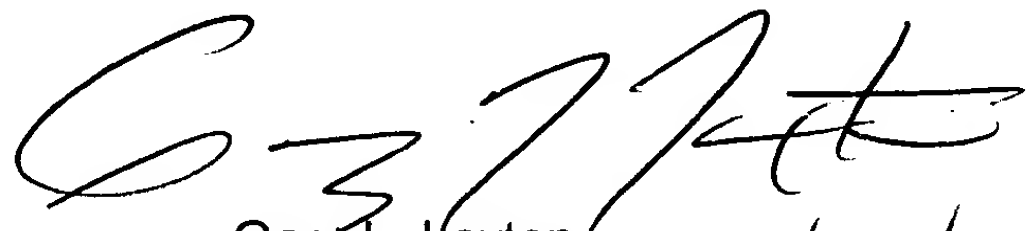
Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 6,636,404 Whitney et al discloses an integrated overcurrent and overvoltage apparatus for use in the protection of telecommunication circuits.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary L. Laxton whose telephone number is (571) 272-2079. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on (571) 272-2084. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Gary L. Laxton
Primary Examiner
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8/2/05